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**Spaight, J. M.** *War Rights on Land.* Pp. xii, 520. Price, \$3.75. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

Dr. Spaight has given us a most scholarly and practical treatise on the law of war on land. In the main he has followed the arrangement of the Hague Regulation on that subject, and in thirteen chapters takes up The Commencement of Hostilities, The Qualifications of Belligerents, Hostilities, Spies, Flags of Truce, Armistices, Capitulations, Prisoners of War, Military Authority over the Territory of the Hostile State, The Geneva Convention, The Sanction of the Laws of War. A final chapter is devoted to the Neutrality Convention adopted at the Hague in 1907.

At the commencement of each chapter the appropriate provisions of the "conventional law of war" are given. The author then proceeds to explain their meaning and to offer suggestions in the case of certain omissions. The experiences of the wars of the last fifty years have been searched to throw light upon doubtful points, and footnotes, well selected, abound, from which might perhaps be made a comprehensive bibliography which has been omitted from the book. To mention at the same time another defect, the index is meagre; for example on page 65, begins an interesting discussion with respect to the employment of semi-civilized troops, but, the index does not contain the important words "savages," "negroes," or "Indians" yet, it does contain the much less important words "Cossacks and Circassians." These, however, are mere questions of detail and, in truth, the arrangement is so logical that a good index is not much needed. If we take the chapter on the Qualifications of Belligerents, at the head we find the first three articles of the Hague Reglement. Then examples and extracts from proclamations show how and to what extent combatants are separated from those who take no part in the hostile operations. The author says (page 37): "The separation of armies and peaceful inhabitants into two distinct classes is perhaps the greatest triumph of International Law." A few pages further along (page 41) the fundamental opposition between the great powers and the smaller states is shown. The former having "adopted universal service would confine belligerent rights to properly organized armies, whether in peace time, or supplemented by reservists on mobilization. The nations who have not established conscription regard such a view as fatal to the cause of national defense."

This divergence of view is the reason for the dispute, as to the right of unorganized populations which rise *en masse* at the approach of the invader to be treated as belligerents. If anyone would understand the thousand and one difficulties which beset the interpretation of almost every important regulation of international law let him read Dr. Spaight's luminous and impartial discussion of this most vital point. The status of guerrilla warfare and the employment of semi-civilized troops are two other question of the right to belligerent treatment.

There can be no doubt but that this work on the War Rights on Land is a very important contribution to the science of the subject. While the destiny of nations does not hang upon the interpretation of these rules

to the same extent as upon the rules relating to the war on sea it is, nevertheless true that a more correct understanding and application of them in any future wars will save an enormous and entirely unnecessary waste of life and property.

The author does not attempt to dodge but brings his learning and his critical faculties to the solution of every question. I am familiar with no work which seems actuated by a spirit of greater fairness. Extensive as is the treatment, Dr. Spaight does not attempt to cover the whole field of the Law of War but states (page 28): "I have therefore purposely confined myself to the consideration of such questions only as would probably come under the purview of such an adviser. [As the legal advisers which accompanied the Japanese armies in the field.] The questions I deal with are those which might arise, they have not all arisen in anyone war, and require to be answered on the spot, without reference to the home government."

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**Spargo, John.** *Sidelights on Contemporary Socialism.* Pp. 154. Price, \$1.00. New York: B. W. Huebsch, 1911.

**Macdonald, J. R.** *The Socialist Movement.* Pp. xiii, 256. Price, 75 cents. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1911.

Mr. Spargo's volume, written primarily for socialists, is made up of three lectures which he has delivered from time to time in different parts of the United States. In these lectures he has undertaken three distinct tasks: (1) to free Marx of the charge of being a materialist; (2) to attack the position of those who object to the active participation in the socialist movement of those who are not manual laborers, *i. e.*, "intellectuals;" and (3) to define his position on the "relative merits of the two wings of the socialist movement broadly designated as 'opportunist' and 'revolutionary.'"

Mr. Spargo is an opportunist, and in this volume he has given us a most interesting and scholarly discussion of the above matters from that point of view, a discussion which is indeed a distinct contribution to the literature of socialism.

"The Socialist Movement," by Mr. Macdonald, however, is not such an excellent piece of work. It is as satisfactory as that type of volume usually is, but it lacks originality and attempts to discuss too many phases of the socialist propaganda.

The book is divided into four parts: (1) a brief statement of the evolution of political, industrial and social institutions; (2) an exposition of the socialist criticism of the capitalistic system; (3) an explanation of what socialism is and what it seeks to accomplish; and (4) a short history of the socialist movement and a sketchy statement of its present strength throughout the world.

The volume will prove most acceptable for propaganda purposes. This no doubt will fulfil the hope of its author, but it can make no claim to